

A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTO-DETECTION OF LAN,
MODEM, OR ISDN UTILIZING A COMMON CONNECTION TO A
PERIPHERAL COMPONENT

5 ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for allowing multiple types of connections to be made to a peripheral component. In one embodiment, the present invention provides a peripheral component with a receptacle having a number of electrical connecting lines. At least one of the electrical lines is used as a signal line by more than one type of connection, which is made directly to the receptacle. Next, the present invention switches the electrical connecting lines between a number of electrical pathways. Next, the present invention determines the type of connection being made to the receptacle. In so doing, an electrical pathway which is appropriate for the connection-type is established.